

The Multitude Which Does Not Reduce Itself to Unity is Confusion

The work of organization on the primary pledge plan is well under way. Democrats everywhere are showing great enthusiasm or they enter upon their effort to make their party true to itself by making it true to the people. Don't withhold your pledge because you always attend primaries. You can help the work by setting a good example to your careless colleague. Send in your own pledge. Then ask your neighbor to sign. It will require time to cover the entire field, but if democrats co-operate, the desired result will be accomplished. Every democrat is asked to pledge himself to attend all of the primaries of his party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to use a clear, honest and straightforward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak. Those desiring to be enrolled can either write to The Commoner approving the object of the organization and asking to have their names entered on the roll, or they can fill out and mail the blank pledge, which is printed on this page.

Extracts from letters received by The Commoner follow:

J. H. Robinson, Oakvale, W. Va.—Enclosed find primary pledge. I am with you in all the reforms advocated in the columns of The Commoner. I will be with you when crossing the last ditch. Yours looking forward to a better day and an honest administration.

C. A. Haulenbeck, Jr., Manhattan, Kans.—I enclose primary pledge which every democrat in the nation should sign. One can not understand "The Value of an Ideal" (politically) until he becomes a student of government instead of greed. The government must get "back to the people," and this certainly cannot be accomplished unless the people get back to the government, and am glad to see that they are "getting busy."

J. W. Long, Gridley, Calif.—Enclosed find my pledge signed, which I have neglected to send you sooner. I will say that I have attended democratic primaries for more than forty years, both in this state and Ohio, and am not too old to give up the fight. I became a voter September 25, 1860.

H. H. Porch, Skekton, Nev.—I believe that a man who will not attend his party's primaries has not a correct idea of his political duties.

J. M. Lay, Weatherford, Tex.— Hoping that we small but true democrats may get a nominee for president in 1908 that we can vote for, I herein enclose my primary pledge.

J. R. Sale, Earlham, Iowa.—Please send a few blank primary pledges to me or J. R. Rodman of Earlham, Iowa.

Wm. O'Connor, Westville, I. T.—Please find primary pledge. I am a Kansas City platform democrat, first, last and all the time. Plutocracy must be decent.

W. J. Lash, Appleton City, Mo.—If you have a form of the pledge you can send me I can get lots to sign it. I send eight names and maybe can send some more right away.

W. T. Miller, Crescent City, Okla.—Enclosed find my pledge to the untrified Jeffersonian democratic party. I have been an earnest and willing follower of the principles advocated by The Commoner since it was born, and I am now willing to do all in my power to aid you and the party to a grand victory in 1908. But I want no more New York candidates in mine.

T. H. Cooper, St. Louis, Mo.—My primary pledge I enclose signed, which I think every good democrat ought to do. The primary pledge is one of the many good leads taken by The Commoner.

V. A. Kinnison, Welch, Ind. Ter.—I send you primary pledge with 35 signatures.

Ed F. Poorman, Humboldt, Ill.—Enclosed find names of eleven more democrats all of Humboldt, who have signed the primary pledge.

Lewis S. Loney, Midland, Md.—Enclosed find primary pledge signed. Push the good work.

Lewis Obouchon, Coffman, Mo.—I send you primary pledge signed by 20 democrats. I might secure a few more but concluded to send what I had as I am 70 years old and do not feel like canvassing any more. I found a few democrats who said they never failed

to attend the primaries and did not see any use in signing a pledge to do so. (There are many such democrats but they should remember that every name helps. If those who attend the primaries regularly, do not assist in pushing the primary pledge plan, at least by sending in their own names, it is not likely that those who habitually remain away from the primaries will be thoughtful enough to assist in this movement. It is to be hoped that every democrat will sign the primary pledge.—The Commoner.)

D. H. Chamberlain, Harriston, Miss.—I send you a batch of names signed to primary pledge. This is only an installment. Many more are to follow.

J. C. Daugherty, Summerville, Mo.—I send you primary pledge with 20 signatures.

Geo. L. Bonman, County Attorney, Kingfisher, Okla.—Find enclosed pledge. Only honest men should be elected to office and let us make that our campaign and all other things for the good of the people will follow.

J. I. Maples, Coin, Ark.—I send you primary pledge with 20 signatures.

Chas. O. McLane, Rossland, B. C. Canada.—I heartily approve of Mr. Bryan's plan of the primary pledge. I have always stood by democracy, my first vote being in 1892 for Grover and the last in 1904 for Alton. He certainly was imposed upon the democratic party and all because democrats neglected primaries. So my votes in 1896 and 1900 are all I have politically to look back upon with satisfaction. I feel that this primary pledge movement will awaken many sleeping democrats; also the trust will awaken many. I am glad to see so many responding to the first roll call with their pledge and their commendation. I herewith enclose pledge filled out and properly signed. I am absent from my county at present and will likely be the rest of this year, but will likely have opportunities to attend primaries long before 1908. God speed to the primary reform. I am a Missouri democrat.

Ed M. Williams, Cadillac, Mich.—I accept primary reform as proposed by The Commoner, but will not mutilate my paper to send the pledge. Will say I am a democrat in the sense Jefferson defines it and I sign this pledge more for posterity than for self.

S. L. Baylor, Milltown, Ind.—I voted for Mr. Bryan in 1896 and 1900. I did not vote for Judge Parker in 1904. I will never vote for any of his like if I know it. The primary pledge plan has placed me on my feet once more. We will stop there unless the fur slips, or we win.

W. J. Reid, Sheridan, Ark.—I herewith enclose 22 primary pledges and I hope by so doing to aid the party in avoiding such blunders as that made last year.

F. E. Daugherty, Goodland, Kans.—You will find enclosed primary pledge. I hope that all democrats will take part and work for the interests of the people.

A. B. Wagor, Blue Rapids, Kans.—Enclosed find six names signed to primary pledge.

John Flaherty, So. McAlester, I. T.—I enclose the names of 56 democrats who have signed the primary pledge. It contains names of the president and the two vice presidents and the secretary of our democratic club, and also that of our mayor. I also send you the names of some good democrats living in surrounding towns and men whom I know will take pleasure in aiding you in your primary work.

J. G. McDonald, Lucas, Mo.—I have been out looking for democratic democrats to sign the primary pledge. Found 109 and more to follow.

R. H. Minister, Los Angeles, Calif.—The plan is an excellent one. If all parties will stand by and act up to the principles involved, namely viz: to secure the object desired, an honest pledge on the part of every candidate seeking the suffrages of the people. The moral trend of the nation is at a low ebb at the present, in my humble opinion, and the dollar frenzy is rampant. I fear a stroke

of lightning will be necessary to bring back proper equilibrium.

Wm. Ayres, Eureka, Calif.—Here-with find sheet with 12 names attached. I have been quite busy or could have easily filled the page. All approached signed readily.

Willa W. Viley, St. Louis, Mo.—I most cheerfully join this primary army. By 1908 it should number several million and with able candidates march on the enemy, recapture the fort of democracy which plutocracy captured in 1904. As one Benedict Arnold did not destroy the Revolutionary army, so a few regiments of plutocrats will not destroy the democratic party.

J. H. Cash, Pine Creek, Mo.—I will try to get democrats to sign the primary pledge.

J. J. Sullivan, Wirt, R. R. 2, Jefferson County, Ind.—Here is my pledge. I expect to stand by the democratic party as long as it stands by the people. I endorse your sentiments.

W. R. Knox, Intercourse, Pa.—Enclosed find primary pledge of Edward D. Riley. Please send me five blank pledges.

J. R. Hildreth, Uniontown, Kans.—Enclosed find two pledges, one signed by me and one by a good neighbor. I heartily endorse the plan. But it should have been put forward years ago and then there would not have been so many corrupt politicians.

W. E. Dammon, Leon, Ia., R. R. 2.—Enclosed find my pledge and order for ten subscription cards.

Naaman Jackson Shortt, Floyd, Va.—I sign the primary pledge cheerfully. I send four other signatures. One is a republican. I am in my 77th year and have voted the democratic ticket all my life. I am proud that I did it, only I cannot brag on last year. I will do all I can for the good old democratic cause of Jefferson and Jackson.

Hill C. Moore, Prescott, Ariz.—I send two primary pledges. Neither one of us ever missed a primary.

F. L. Casteel, Democratic Com. Franklin township, Newton County,

THE PRIMARY PLEDGE

I promise to attend all the primaries of my party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to use my influence to secure a clear, honest and straightforward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak.

Signed.....

Street..... Postoffice..... State.....

County..... Voting precinct or ward.....

Fill out blanks and mail to Commoner Office, Lincoln, Neb.